

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding reported changes recommended in school text books.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): The RSS affiliated Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas recommended that the thoughts of Tagore be removed from school textbooks for all classes. The recommendations were made by the Nyas to the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), which recently sought suggestions from the public on reviewing school textbooks for all classes. Besides Tagore, the Nyas, has sought removal of English, Urdu and Arabic words, a poem by the revolutionary poet Pash, a couplet by Mirza Ghalib, extracts from painter M F Hussain's autobiography and references to Mughal emperors as "benevolent". This is a dangerous recommendation since Rabindranath Tagore is the poet who composed the National Anthem for both India and Bangladesh and has been hailed as a world poet. The Government should categorically state that it has no connection with such comments made by the Nyas.